

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 FBIE-00 /075 W  
----- 024138

R 171620Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1392

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 290

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CVIS, UK, EI

SUBJECT: NO WARNING BOMBS KILLS TWO

REF: BELFAST 288

1. A MALE PEDESTRIAN AND THE WIFE OF THE OWNER OF A BARD  
IN KEADY, COUNTY ARMAGH, WERE KILLED BY AN EXPLOSION NIGHT OF  
AUGUST 16. TWENTY INJURED. ESTIMATED TWO HUNDRED POUNDS OF  
EXPLOSIVE HAD BEEN PACKED IN CAR BOMB DETONATED WITHOUT WARNING  
IN OPERATION TYPICAL OF PROTESTANT TERRORISTS. NO ORGANIZATION  
HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY BUT THIS COULD BE FIRST BLAST OF NEW  
SECTARIAN REPRISAL CAMPAIGN.

2. PROVISIONAL IRA CONTINUING "WAR" ON TWO FRONTS. ONE OF  
FEW REMAINING HOTELS ENVIRONS BELFAST PUT OUT OF BUSINESS BY  
BOMBS AUGUST 16 AS ARMED MEN PLANTED EXPLOSIVES IN WOODLANDS  
HOTEL, LISBURN. TWO SHOPS ALSO JUST OUTSIDE SECURITY AREA  
DOWNTOWN BELFAST WRECKED BY BOMBS. ON OTHER FRONT, IN ANDERSONSTOWN  
AREA, WOMEN WHO LED OR PARTICIPATED IN "PROVISIONALS-OUT"  
PEACE RALLY (REFTEL) HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO INTIMIDATION. HOUSE  
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OF ONE LEADER APPROACHED BY YOUTHS WITH MOLOTOV COCKTAILS BUT

ROUTED BY NEIGHBOURS. GRAFFITI APPEARING WEST BELFAST NAMING ANOTHER LEADER, MRS. BETTY WILLIAMS, AS A "TRAITOR" AND THREATENING "DEATH FOR BETTY WILLIAMS . PROVISIONAL IRA DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS READING IN PART: "ANY PERSON FOUND GUILTY OF PASSING INFORMATION TO THE BRITISH ARMH, THE RUC OR LOYALIST FORCES, OR LOOSE TALKING, WILL BE DEALT WITH IN A MOST SEVERE MANNER. IF YOU KNOW OR SUSPECT ANYONE OF PASSING INFORMATION TO THE BRITISH CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT. YOU MAY SAVE SOMEONE'S LIFE OR SOMEONE'S FREEDOM". THERE ARE ALSO INDICATIONS OF RISING TENSION BETWEEN THE PROVISIONAL AND OFFICIAL WINGS OF THE IRA. THE OFFICIAL IRA, THROUGH THE REPUBLICAN CLUBS, HAS VOICE SUPPORT FOR THE PEACE DEMONSTRATORS.

3. PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN VICE PRESIDENT MAIRE DRUMM WAS FORMALLY CHARGED IN BELFAST MAGISTRATE'S COURT AUGUST 16 WITH "KNOWINGLY TAKING PART IN A PUBLIC PROCESSION IN RESPECT OF WHICH NOTICE WAS NOT GIVEN CONTRARY TO SECTION ONE OF THE PUBLIC ORDER ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1951". MRS. DRUMM REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THE COURT AND REFUSED BAIL. SHE WAS REMANDED IN CUSOTDY FOR TWO WEEKS. CHARGE PROBABLY REFLECTS DECISION OF PUBLIC PROSECUTOR THAT SHE NOT INDICTABLE FOR CONTRAVENING PROVISIONS OF INCITEMENT TO HATRED LEGISLATION.

4. PUBLIC UNEASE ABOUT SECURITY SITUATION CONTINUED BE REFLECTED IN STATEMENTS. VANGUARD UNIONIST LEADER WILLIAM CRAIG CALLED ON SECRETARY OF STATE REES AUGUST 16 AND AFTER MEETING EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT MR. REES "SINCERE" IN WANTING TO DESTROY PROVISIONAL IRA. CRAIG ALSO SAID HE DID NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE THERE WERE CONSTRAINTS ON SECURITY FORCES BUT HE DID NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE ANTI-TERRORIST LAWS WERE STRONG ENOUGH. CONSERVATIVE SPOKESMAN AIERY NEAVE AND JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON MET WITH DELEGATIONS FROM OFFICIAL UNIONISTS, VANGUARD UNIONISTS, ALLIANCE AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY. MR. NEAVE HAS REITERATED BOTH CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR BIARTISAN POLICY TOWARD MOST ISSUES ON NORTHERN IRELAND CALL FOR "NEW OFFENSIVE" BY GOVERNMENT AGAINST TERRORISTS. LOCAL PRESS CITED UNNAMED SENIOR POLICE OFFICIAL AUGUST 7 AS SOURCE FOR REPORT THAT MAJORITY IN ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY FAVOR RETURN OF DETENTION. IN FAIRLY NEW DEVELOPMENT, THOSE IN NORTHERN IRELAND WHO FAVOR RETURN OF DETENTION ARE BEGINNING TO TALK IN TERMS OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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SELECTIVE DETENTION OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF KNOWN, HARD-CORE TERRORISTS. SO FAR AS KNOWN, HOWEVER, NO CATHOLIC SPOKESMAN HAS REGISTERED APPROVAL OF DETENTION AND IN VIEW RECENT RELATIVE INACTIVITY ON PART PROTESTANT TERRORISTS, ANY RENEWED DETENTION WOULD FIRST AFFECT MINORITY COMMUNITY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Action:** n/a  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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